Shuumatsu No Valkyrie

CHAPTER 39 (LQ)

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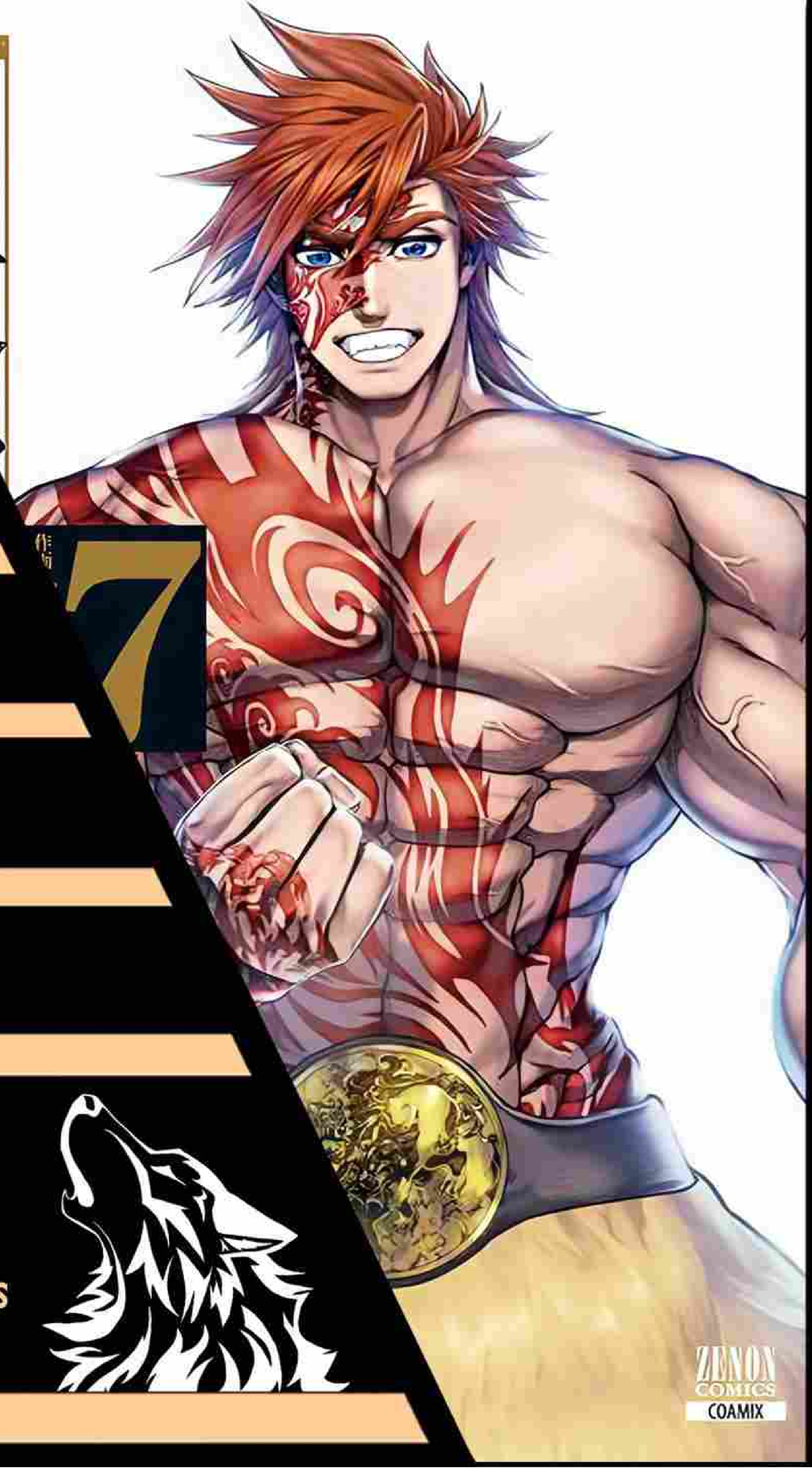


Chapter 39: Forbidden Move

……

I-I CAN'T TAKE THIS...

H-HE'S STRONG ...

DID THE DES-TROYER FINALLY BREAK 'IM?

THE HELL? HE'S SMIL-ING?

WHILE MOST OF MANKIND DESPAIRED AT ITS OVERWHELMING INFERIORITY...

THOSE MEN WHO HAD CLASHED WITH RAIDEN TAMEEMON IN THE RING STOOD DEFIANT.

YEAH. THE TITLE "PEERLESS RIKISHI" AIN'T JUST FOR KICKS!

WE KNOW RAIDEN'S STRENGTH BETTER'N ANYONE ELSE!

THIS IS IT.

THROW 'IM OUTTA THE RING!!

RAI-DEN!!

ウオオオオオ

AIN'T HE?

HE REALLY *IS* HAPPY!!

EH, ONO-GAWA?

RAIDEN'S SMILING ON THE RING!

AH HAH HAH!!

SEE THAT, TANI-KAZE?

YOU'VE FINALLY GOT IT...

TAROU-KICHI, YOU BASTARD...

GO ALL-OUT!!

YOU CAN FINAL-LY...

NO RIKISHI EVER LOVED SUMO AS MUCH AS RAIDEN TAMEEMON...

WHILE NOT HAVING SUMO LOVE THEM BACK.

GAH!

URAH!

TAROUKICHI (AGE 5)

YOU JUST CAN'T BE BEAT, TORAJI!

NO WAY!

AW, WHAT? NO ONE WANTS TO TRY?

WHO'S NEXT?!

AW, YEAH! THAT'S SEVEN IN A ROW!

WANNA GIVE IT A SHOT, TAROU-KICHI?

SURE YOUR BODY CAN HANDLE IT?

HM?

YEAH!!

/10

IS THAT TAROUKICHI REALLY CUT OUT FOR SUMO?

DUNNO... I AIN'T EVER SEEN HIM TRY...

AND GO!!

TAROU-KICHI'S PRETTY WEAK...

I THINK I'LL GO EASY ON

EVEN WITH HYAKUHEI HOLDING HIS MUSCLES BACK...

?!

HE WAS LIKE A FREAK OF NATURE.

GO

ALRIGHT! I WON!

A...

YOU OKAY?

...!

WH-
WHAT
THE
HELL
ARE
YOU?!

EEK!!

IT'S
DAIDARA-
BOTCHI...

I-IT'S A
MON-
STER...!

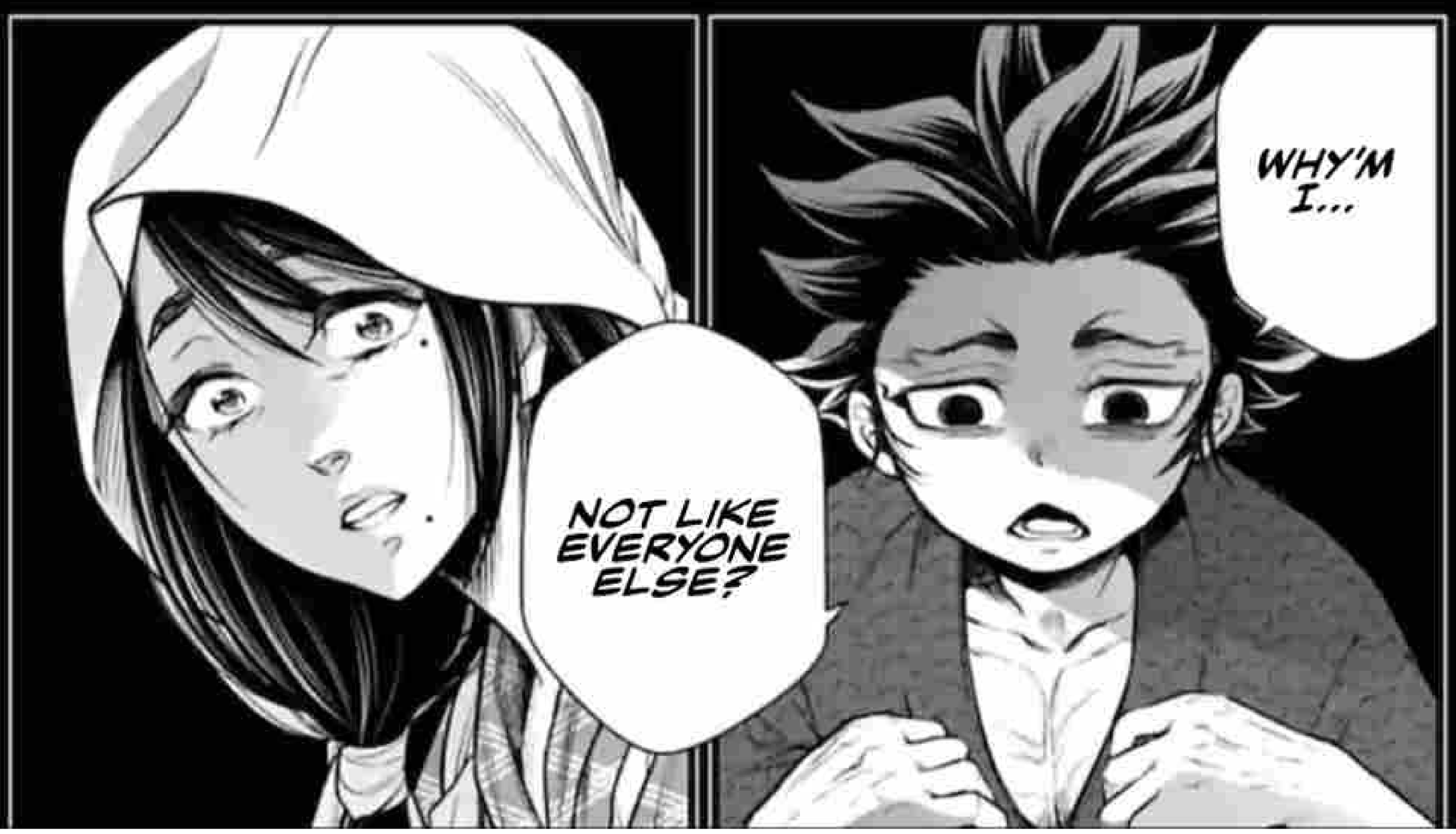
DAIDARA-
BOTCHI!!

.....

YOU'RE NOT GONNA PLAY WITH THE OTHER KIDS?
TAROU-KICHI...

.....

...MAMA...


WHY'M I...
NOT LIKE EVERYONE ELSE?

MAKE ME SUCH A FREAK ...?

WHY'D GOD...

TAROU-KICHI...

!

YOUR MAMA...

IS VERY THANK-FUL TO GOD...

WE WENT TO THE SHRINE SO, SO MANY TIMES...

AND PRAYED TO GOD...

WHEN YOU COULDN'T STAND UP...

?

"AND LET HIM GROW UP BIG AND STRONG."

"PLEASE, GIVE THIS CHILD THE ABILITY TO STAND ON HIS OWN FEET..."

AND NOW...

YOU'VE GOTTEN SO BIG.

GOD LOVES YOU.

TAROU-KICHI...

AND YOUR MAMA IS SO PROUD OF THAT.

YOUR POWER IS A GIFT FROM GOD...

THAT'S YOURS AND YOURS ALONE...

SO PLEASE...

FOR THE GOOD OF THE WEAK.

USE THAT POWER...

.....

OF THE WEAK...

FOR THE GOOD...

JUST AS HIS MOTHER HAD WISHED...

FROM THEN ON...

TO BE A KIND-HEARTED CHILD.

TAROU-KICHI GREW UP...

LOVED BY ALL IN THE LAND OF SHINANO...

AND SO HE WOULD HAVE LIVED...

HOWEVER...

TENMEI 3
(A.D. 1783)

THE
ERUPTION
OF MT.
ASAMA

DISASTER STRUCK, AND
CHANGED HIS FATE FOREVER.

VOLCANIC ASH WIPED OUT ALL THE CROPS...

AND PLAGUES AND FAMINES STRUCK THE WHOLE SHINANO PROVINCE...

IN WHAT WOULD LATER BE KNOWN AS THE **GREAT TENMEI FAMINE.**

LEADING THOUSANDS TO STARVE TO DEATH...

I'M SO HUNGRY...

PLEASE...

MAMA...

MAMA...

WAKE UP... WAKE UP...

MAMA...

MY POWER...

やめぁぁん...

FOR THE GOOD OF THE WEAK...

MY POWER'S...

TAROUKICHI
(AGE 17)

TAROUKICHI LEFT SHINANO...

AND RAN LIKE THE WIND.

TAROU-KICHI ARRIVED IN...

AT SEVEN-TEEN YEARS OLD...

EDO

URAKAZE STABLE

浦風部屋

TAROU-KICHI CHOSE TO BE-COME A SUMO WREST-LER...

TO RAISE AS MUCH MONEY FOR HIS HOMETOWN AS HE COULD.

ドドド

三進二退

一日一歩

*KNOWN INITIALLY AS URAKAZE RIN'EMON, AND LATER AS URAKAZE YOHACHI

MASTER URAKAZE
EDO TOURNAMENT
SUMO STABLE MASTER

WISH I COULD SEND THOSE BAGS BACK HOME...

THAT'S A LOT OF WHITE RICE...

WHOA...

.....

I... UH...

THINK I'LL HAFTA PASS.

UH...

TAROU-KICHI, YOU'RE NEXT.

GO AT 'EM WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT.

WHAT?

I'D JUST WIND UP DESTROYIN' Y'ALL, SO...

IF I WENT ALL-OUT...

GA HA HA HA!

YOU CRACK ME UP!

M... MOTHER-FUCKER!

THOUGHT YOU COULD BULLSHIT US, DIDJ--

OZEKI!

LET'S GO, YOU AND ME!

YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ANY PROBLEM WITH ME, WOULDJA?

OZEKI
TANIKAZE KAJINOSUKE
(LATER THE FOURTH YOKOZUNA)

ARE YOU REALLY GONNA INSULT TANIKAZE-ZEKI LIKE THAT?

THIS IS THE *OZEKI* GOIN' OUT OF HIS WAY TO CHAL-LENGE YOU!

WHA...

UH, Y'SEE...

*OZEKI - SECOND-HIGHEST RANKING IN SUMO, DIRECTLY BELOW THE YOKOZUNA
**-ZEKI - HONORIFIC GIVEN TO HIGH-RANKING RIKISHI

LOOK, TAROU-KICHI...

IF YOU DON'T BEAT ME HERE AND NOW, YOUR ASS IS GOIN' BACK TO THE BOONIES, ALRIGHT?

I CAN'T DO THAT!!

BUT I--...

FINE BY ME.

IF YOU GO FLYIN' AN' GET HURT, IT AIN'T MY PROBLEM, GOT IT?

?!

...?!

!

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

THAT EVERY-THING YOU'VE GOT?

カリカリ

AND GET OUTTA HERE.

THEN GRAB YOUR THINGS...

SORRY, BUT...

EVERY-ONE'S HUNGRY... THEY NEED ME...

WELL, THEN...

I AIN'T GOIN' HOME!!

WHAT-CHA GONNA DO ABOUT IT?

UGH...

WHO'S... BREAKIN' WHO NOW?

YOU BAS-TARD!!

SAY THAT AGAIN!!

COME AT ME, YOU LITTLE SHIT!!

I AIN'T DOWN YET!!

HP... HP...

WHAT'D YA THINK, KIDDO...?

THAT'S SUMO FOR YA!

PRETTY POWER-FUL, EH?

FUN!!

SUMO'S...

UNDER MY WING?

CAN I TAKE HIM...

YOU GOT GUTS, KID!!

DAAHAHA! GIVIN' HISTORY'S STRONG-EST OZEKI A GOOD TIME...

BUT I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T WANT ANY PUPILS, RIGHT, TANIKAZE?

SURE, I DON'T MIND...

ガ!!——

I THINK I'VE JUST CHANGED MY MIND.

カ!!

WELL...

ブル ブル ブル

TEP-POU...

SURI-ASHI...

SHIKO...

TO PRAC-
TICING
THE FUNDA-
MENTALS
OF SUMO...

THE BOY
TIRELESSLY
DEVOTED
HIMSELF...

SUMO...

NOT
YET...
ONE
MORE
TIME...!!

FOR
HIM...

WAS THE
FIRST
PLACE
IN HIS
LIFE...

WHERE
HE COULD
GO ALL-
OUT
AGAINST
HIS OPPO-
NENTS.

YEAH!

AND SO...

KANSEI 2
(A.D. 1790)

MAMA...

READY!!

HERE I GO.

RAIDEN TAMEEMON DEBUTED UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE MATSUE DOMAIN.

!!

WH- WHAT THE HELL ...?

HE'S SO SKINNY, BUT HE'S...

I CAN'T MO--...

KO

HEH.
W...

AAAAAAAAAA

THAT WAS AWE-SOME, RAIDEN!

WOO-HOO!

.....

I'VE NEVER SEEN THAT BEFORE...

RAIDEN BECAME A LIVING LEGEND.

I MIGHT'VE JUST RAISED SOME KINDA MONSTER.

DAMN... I THINK...

DEFEATING HIS OPPONENTS WITH JUST ONE STRIKE...

IN A SERIES OF STUNNING CONSECUTIVE WINS...

ATTA-BOY, RAIDEN!

THE THUNDERBOLT OF SHINANO!

KYAAA AAAA! RAIDEN-SAMA!

ONCE CALLED "DAIDARABOTCHI", NOW, IN EDO--

IN HIS HOMETOWN--

--NO...

HE SHONE BRIGHT LIKE A BOLT OF LIGHTNING.

IN ALL OF FAMINE-STRICKEN JAPAN...

HOWEVER...

アアアアア

RAIDEN!!

AND ON THE WEST SIDE...

THAT PEAK DID NOT LAST LONG.

ﾊｧ...

ﾊｧ!!

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS!

WOO!

KYAAA!!

10

YEAH!!

ブルブル

GLANCE

EEEEEEEEEEK!!

EE...

!

WH-WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU?!

EEEK!!

ドドド

"DAIDARA-BOTCHI!!"

……

"IT'S DAIDARA-BOTCHI..."

RAI-DEN...

TODAY'S MATCH...

WHY THE HELL'D YOU THROW IT?!

.....

Y'HEAR ME?! WHAT YOU DID TODAY...

WAS LIKE SPITTING ON THE GOD OF SUMO HIMSELF!!

ガシッ

ボロ…

EVER SINCE I WAS LITTLE... MY MAMA ALWAYS TOLD ME TO USE MY POWERS FOR THE GOOD OF THE WEAK...

MAS-TER...

BUT...!

ボロ

BUT...

I'VE GONE BACK TO PICKING ON THEM AGAIN...

IT SEEMS LIKE...

TO FEED THE FOLKS BACK HOME...

THIS IS ALL I'VE GOT...

グシャ...

BUT... THIS IS ALL I CAN DO...

YOU...

SUMO'S ALL I'VE...

THEREAFTER...

AND SO HE WOULDN'T HARM THE WEAK...

RAIDEN SEALED AWAY HIS MOST POWERFUL MOVES...

SO HE "WOULDN'T BREAK" HIS OPPO-NENTS...

"KANUKI"

"SABAOR"

"HARTE"

"TERRY"

TOGETHER, THESE BECAME RAIDEN'S "FORBIDDEN FOUR".

EVEN SO...

BUT...

WHAT A PAIN...

RAIDEN CONTINUED TO WIN... AND SENT THE MONEY BACK TO HIS HOMETOWN.

*AZUKARI, WAKE, AND MUSHOUBU ARE THREE DIFFERENT TYPES OF DRAWS IN SUMO--THE FIRST DUE TO A TOO-CLOSE-TO-CALL BOUT, THE SECOND DUE TO INJURY OR EXHAUSTION, AND THE THIRD DUE TO A LACK OF DECISION ON THE PART OF THE REFEREE. NONE OF THESE ARE COUNTED IN THE WINNING RATIO.

HAD A RECORD OF 254 WINS, 10 LOSSES, 14 AZUKARI, 2 WAKE, AND 5 MUSHOUBU OUT OF 285 BOUTS, WITH A WINNING RATIO OF .962.

OVER A CAREER SPANNING TWENTY-ONE YEARS...

THE HIGHEST-RANKING "OZEKI"...

IN OTHER WORDS, THERE WAS SOME REASON WHY HE COULD NOT FIGHT THOSE OPPONENTS.

THE 10 LOSSES AND 2 WAKE WERE ALL AGAINST LOWER-RANK RIKISHI.

PEOPLE CALLED THIS VIRTUALLY UNBEATABLE CONTESTANT...

FOR THAT REASON...

雷電為右衛門

"PEERLESS RIKISHI".

BUT NO ONE KNEW...

THE PEERLESS RIKISHI, RAIDEN TAMEEMON, LEFT THE RING FOR GOOD...

THAT UP UNTIL THE MOMENT...

NOT EVEN ONCE.

HE COULD NEVER GO ALL-OUT AGAIN.

I'M SORRY...

TAROU-KICHI...

ONCE YOU WERE FULL-GROWN...

WE JUST COULDN'T HANDLE YOU AT YOUR BEST.

...RIGHT.

SHOW 'EM...

SHOW 'EM THE REAL SUMO...

THAT RAIDEN TAMEEMON ALWAYS WANTED TO SHOW US!!

HH...

IT'S SURE BEEN A WHILE...

HEH HEH...

TO LET HIMSELF--

MAN, THE HELL'S UP WITH YOU?

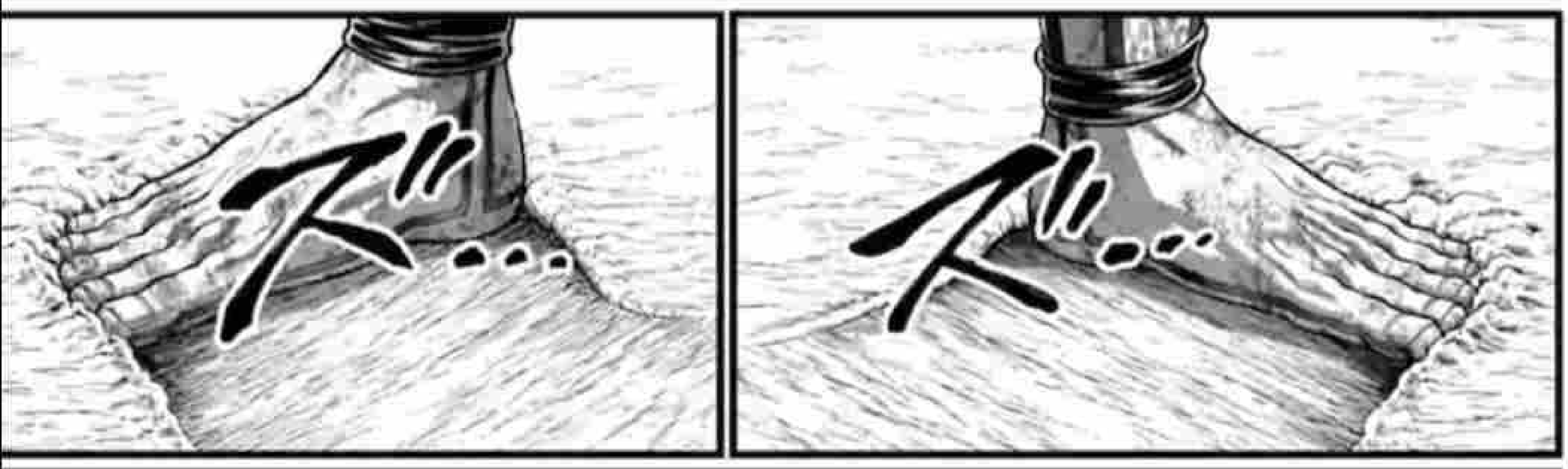
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ***ENJOYING*** THIS!

WITHOUT HAVIN' TO HOLD BACK...

SINCE I COULD WRESTLE...

--NO...

TO LET SUMO LOOSE...



ONCE RAIDEN HAD DECIDED UPON THAT...

HIS BODY BEGAN TO MOVE
QUITE NATURALLY.

10

ア…

IT'S RAIDEN'S ENTRANCE PROCES-SION...

YEP...

IS THAT ...?

GOIN' WITH YOUR LAST RESORT, HUH...? NICE!

ア…

COME AT ME WITH EVERY-THING YOU'VE GOT!!

ドゴッ

ドゴッ

YOI-SHO!!

THE TIME FOR PREPPING WAS UP.

NOW, WITH NO HOLDS BARRED...

ｽｯ…

OF ALL THE SUMO TECHNIQUES AVAILABLE TO HIM, THE ONE WHICH RAIDEN TAMEEMON CHOSE...

WAS ONE OF THE SPORT'S MOST FUNDAMENTAL AND ESSENTIAL.

TEPPOU.

ON THE VERGE OF LAUNCHING IT FROM A CONSPICU-OUS STANCE...

RAIDEN...

GRANTED TO HIM BY HIS VÖLUND...

WITH THE COMPLETE CONTROL OVER HIS MUSCLES...

DIVERTED THIS ENERGY...

INTO A DIFFERENT SORT OF TECHNIQUE...

AND THUS... WITH EXTREMELY RAPID SHIFTS WITHIN HIS MUSCLES...

INTO THE HEEL OF HIS PALM..

PLACED ALL OF HIS FORCE...

LET 'ER RIP!!

!

A SINGLE, ALL-DESTRUCTIVE BLOW...

THE HIGHEST FORM OF TEPPOU...

KNOWN AS...

ハイラ
YATAGARASU